

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY)	ORDER APPROVING TARIFF
NORTHWESTERN PUBLIC SERVICE)	REVISIONS
COMPANY FOR APPROVAL OF REVISIONS)	GE97-004
TO ITS TARIFFS)	

On December 5, 1997, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a filing from Northwestern Public Service Company (NWPS) requesting approval of changes in its tariff sheets for both the Gas and Electric Tariffs Section No. 6. The application stated: "NWPS is converting to a new customer information and billing system. Because of the conversion to this new system, NWPS proposes a new format for its bills and collections communications pieces. The proposed tariffs are submitted to effect changes in the bill form that NWPS sends to all its customers. These changes are intended to make a customer's bill easier to read and understand while still containing all the required information pursuant to A.R.S.D. 20:10:17:03." On December 26 and 29, 1997, NWPS filed revisions to its filing of December 5, 1997. NWPS filed the following tariff sheets:

Electric

Section No. 6

- Original Sheet Nos. 22, 23, and 24
- 1st Revised Sheet Nos. 10.1, 13.1, 15, 18, and 19.1
- 2nd Revised Sheet Nos. 7, 8, and 19
- 3rd Revised Sheet Nos. 1.1, 5, 9, and 10
- 4th Revised Sheet No. 4
- 5th Revised Sheet Nos. 1, 2, and 3

Gas

Section No. 6

- Original Sheet Nos. 29, 30, and 31
- 1st Revised Sheet Nos. 10.1, 11, 14, 15.1, 16.1, 16.2, 16.3, 16.4, and 16.5
- 2nd Revised Sheet Nos. 7, 8, and 15
- 3rd Revised Sheet Nos. 1.1, 5, 9, and 10
- 4th Revised Sheet No. 4
- 5th Revised Sheet Nos. 1, 2, and 3

At its duly noticed ad hoc meeting of December 30, 1997, the Commission discussed final approval of the application. Commission Staff recommended approval of the tariff revisions.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-34A. The Commission found the tariff changes are just and reasonable and approved the revised tariffs. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

ORDERED that NWPS' aforementioned tariffs are approved and shall be effective for service rendered on and after January 5, 1998.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 7th day of January, 1998.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE	
The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, by facsimile or by first class mail, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon.	
By:	<u>Alaine Kelbo</u>
Date:	<u>1/9/98</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)	

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

James A. Burg
JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

Pam Nelson
PAM NELSON, Commissioner

Laska Schoenfelder
LASKA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner